THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5858. *Wednesday, Sept.* 30, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer*.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

LAST night *The Bride of Messina* drew an excellent house. The Play was succeeded by a new Musical Drama, in two acts, written and composed by the talented Samuel Lover. We marvel whether the Drama would have been successful had it not been so beautifully got up, and we are sure that it would not have succeeded so well, with every advantage of costume and scenic effect, but for the captivating grace with which Madame Vestris sustains the principal character, *Hylas*, a Greek Boy. The latter is the title of the piece, and the plot turns on the vow of a Doge of Venice that no one shall marry his daughter unless the suitor can produce the identical ring with which the Adriatic has just been wedded. Hylas, an artful jeweller, contrives to manufacture a ring, so precisely similar to that which the Doge has cast into the sea, that the latter is compelled to give his daughter to a Venetian Count. Keeley has a very humorous part, that of a pompous coward, who, assuming nobility, is seized by some robbers in the expectation of his being really a noble, when he is greatly discomposed at first, though secretly flattered at the bravos' mistake. A tastefully arranged dance was introduced with great effect at the end of the first act. A *pas de deux*, by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert, was much applauded, and Master and Miss Marshall executed a dance very skilfully. Madame Vestris as the Greek Boy was splendidly dressed, and sang a very pretty song, which gained a loud encore. Nothing could be more expressive than her acting, and so the audience thought, for she was greatly applauded throughout. The other characters were well played by Miss A. Taylor, Miss Lane, Diddear, S Jones, Cooper, &c. The scenery by Messrs. Grieve is magnificent; the only improvement necessary to the piece is curtailment which must be effected to cause it a run.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

LAST night *The Man of the World* was revived to afford Mr. Maywood, who has gained much celebrity in America, an opportunity of sustaining the character of *Sir Pertinax Mc'Sycophant.* It is with great pleasure that we are enabled to record the complete success of this gentleman, who acted the part with so much skill, care and talent as to surprise the audience, who were kept in a continual roar of laughter and applause. We have never seen a more brilliant essay than that of Mr. Maywood's last night, and congratulate the lessee on his having secured the services of so talented a performer. There was a slight coarseness in some of his scenes which may be unpleasant to some, but, as a whole, nothing can be better conceived than the assumption. Highly effective

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was his interview with *Egerton*, in which he recounts his successful career through life, and where quiet acting was necessary, nothing could be wished for more to the point. At the end of the Comedy, Mr. Maywood was called before the curtain to receive the renewed applause of a most crowded house. Mrs. Stirling played *Lady Rodolpha* beautifully. The Scotch dialect is most difficult of pronunciation to an English actress, but this drawback was admirably got over by Mrs. Stirling, who received the warmest applause. Phelps played *Egerton* exceedingly well, and the cast was altogether excellent. The afterpieces were *The Brigand*, and *Fish Out of Water*.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st., Portman Sq.—Just added to their unrivalled collection, the full length figure of the lunatic Oxford; also splendid figures of Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert in his military costume, the group of John Knox, reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

On Tuesday, visit the DIORAMA, Regent's Park, to see the new view, *The Shrine of the Nativity at Bethlehem*, painted by M. Renoux, from a sketch made on the spot by David Roberts, Esq., A R.A. and the splendid view of *The Coronation of Queen Victoria* in Westminster Abbey, by M. Bouton. This delightful Exhibition is open every day from ten till five.

Wednesday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful exhibition, *The Industrious Fleas*. They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. Afterwards visited the Royal Glass Working Exhibition, paid only sixpence, and received an article in return.

Thursday, pop into the Gallery of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, East, to view Mr. G. Peck's Novel and Magnificent Model of Hobart Town, the Capital of Van Dieman's Land. It is constructed upon a scale of 20 feet to an inch, and includes every building in this romantic and interesting town. Also in this Exhibition will be seen Two Moving Panoramas, consisting of Sydney the capital of New South Wales, and Scenery in the Environs of Hobart Town.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

As I am very desirous to have all the little P's excellent musicians, must call upon Messrs. Cocks & Co. the eminent Music-sellers, and obtain one of their Catalogues of School Books, Elementary Works, Studies, &c. Recommend all amateurs, heads of schools, teachers of music, &c. to possess this valuable Catalogue, can be had *gratis* and *postage free*.—Must remember the address, 20, Princes-st, Hanover Square.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Friday, drop into *The Florentine Anatomical Museum*, Margaret Street, Regent Street, to admire the splendid Anatomical Figures of Venus and Adonis, modelled from nature, and as large as life.

There is scarcely an inhabitant of this metropolis who has not heard of "Grimstone's Eye Snuff," and therefore as far as attempting to add to its popularity, it would only be like "gilding refined gold," but I must mention, that since I have called at 39, Broad Street, Bloomsbury, and purchased a 1s. 3d. and 2s. 4d. canister of this herbacious and truly delightful Snuff, it has cured my dimness of sight and head-ache, although all the faculty had failed to effect a cure.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, (*9th Time*) a New Play, (in Five Acts) by S. KNOWLES, called The

Bride of Messina.

The Act Music entirely new, composed by Messrs. R. HUGHES & J. H. TULLY.

SICILIANS.

John di Procida.....Mr MOORE,
Fernando, Mr ANDERSON,
Guiscardo, Mr COOPER, Andrea, Mr HEMMING,
Angelo Martini, Mr W. H. PAYNE, Carlo, Mr BINGE,
Stefeno, Mr C. J. SMITH, Syndic, Mr S. SMITH,
Tommaso, Mr COLLET, Francesco, Mr MORELLY.

FRENCH.

Governor of Messina ..... Mr DIDDEAR,
Louis, Mr FITZJAMES, Martel, Mr BRINDAL,
Ambrose, Mr J. BLAND, Le Clerc, Mr WIGAN,
François, Mr HONNER, Pierre, Mr CONNELL,
Isoline, (Daughter of the Governor) Miss E. TREE,
Margueritte, Miss FITZJAMES,

After which, (*2nd Time*) a New Musical Drama, in Two Acts, entitled

The Greek Boy.

With New Scenery, Dresses, and Decorations.

The Scenery by the Messrs: GRIEVE.

The Decorations, by Mr W. BRADWELL. The Dresses by Mr HEAD, &c

The Music composed by Mr. S. LOVER.

The Action and Dances by Mr. OSCAR BYRNE.

Hylas, Madame VESTRIS,
Doge of Venice ..... Mr S. JONES,
Count Malveggio, Mr DIDDEAR,
Visconti, Mr WIGAN, Vivaldi, Mr AYLIFFE,
Silvio, Mr KEELEY,
Claudio, Mr BINGE, Andrea, Mr GRANBY,
Bernardo, Mr F. MATTHEWS,
Basillo, Mr W. H. PAYNE, Marcas, Mr C. J. SMITH,
Pietro, Mr KERRIDGE,
Citizens.... .....Mr Morelli and Mr Collett,
Gondoliers, Mr Ireland and Mr Gardner,

Benedetta, Miss COOPER,
Costanza, Miss A. TAYLOR, Marcella, Miss LANE,

IN ACT FIRST,

AN INCIDENTAL BALLET,

IN WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED

A Pas de Deux..... by Master and Miss Marshall,
And a Pas de Deux..by Mr Gilbert & Miss Ballin,

To-morrow, The Bride of Messina, and The Greek Boy.

Theatre Royal, Hay-market.

This Evening, (*3rd Time*) a New and Original Play, in Five Acts, called

Master Clarke !

With entirely New Scenery, Dresses, and Decorations.

RichardCromwell,(LordProtector) MrMACREADY,
General Disbrowe, (Cromwell's) MrPHELPS,
Colonel Ingoldsby, (Lords,) MrW.LACY,
Lord Falconberg, Mr WORRELL,
CaptainDarnel,(Officers of the) MrG.BENNETT,
CaptainBerry, (RepublicanArmy)MrCAULFIELD,
Thurloe, (Secretary of State) Mr GOUGH,
Sir Jacob Chubb.....Mr STRICKLAND,
Robert Deagle, Mr WEBSTER,
King Charles the Second....Mr J. WEBSTER,
LordHyde,MrWALDRON, SirR.Willis, MrHOWE,
SirR.Perceval,MrGREEN, Smoothly,MrOXBERRY,
Lady Dorothy Cromwell..Miss H. FAUCIT,
Lady Chubb.....Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Patience, Miss GROVE.

After which, (7th time here.) the Romantic Drama of

The BRIGAND.

Prince Bianchi, Mr WALDRON,
Albert, Mr HOWE, Theodore, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Alessandro Massaroni, Mr WALLACK,
Nicolo, Mr T. F. MATHEWS, Fabio, Mr GOUGH
Rubaldo, Mr GALLOT,
Count Carrafa.....Mr WORRELL,
Cardinal Secretary, Mr Bishop, Officer, Mr Green,
Yager to the Prince, Mr Clark,
Ottavia .... Mrs E. YARNOLD,
Maria Grazie, Miss CHARLES,

To conclude with the Farce of

FAMILY JARS

Mr Peter Porcelain, Mr STRICKLAND,
Delph, ... Mr DAVID REES,
Diggory Delph, Mr OXBERRY,
Benedict Porcelain, Mr Caulfield, Joe, Mr Bishop,
Emily, Miss MATTLEY,
Liddy..... .... Mrs E. YARNOLD.

To-morrow, Master Clarke, with a new Farce, called The Unfortunate Youth, and The Brigand.

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